

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 COME-00
EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 PA-01 PRS-01
USIA-06 /074 W
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R 241231Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4444
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

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USEEC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, ICFTU, XZ
SUBJ: NORDIC COUNCIL OF TRADE UNIONS MEETING JAN. 26-27

REF: BRUSSELS 17487

1. THE NORDIC COUNCIL OF TRADE UNIONS, WHICH GROUPS
TOGETHER EIGHT NATIONAL CENTERS FROM FIVE COUNTRIES
(INCLUDING ICELAND), WILL GET A LOT OF ATTENTION FROM
BRUSSELS WHEN ITS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETS IN STOCKHOLM
AT THE END OF THIS WEEK.

2. OTTO KERSTEN, GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL
CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS (ICFTU), AND ENZO
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FRISO, ICFTU STAFFER, ARE SCHEDULED TO ATTEND THE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING ON JAN. 27 TO PARTICIPATE
IN DISCUSSION OF TWO AGENDA ITEMS: (A) RECENT LABOR
DEVELOPMENTS IN LATIN AMERICA AND (B) THE ICFTU CAMPAIGN
AGAINST APARTHEID IN SOUTH AFRICA.

3. IN ADDITION, MATHIAS HINTERSCHIED, GENERAL SECRETARY

OF THE EUROPEAN TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION (ETUC), AND HIS DEPUTY, SVEN-ERIK STERNER, ARE PLANNING TO BE IN STOCKHOLM FOR A NORDIC COUNCIL DINNER THE EVENING OF JAN. 26 AND EXPECT TO HAVE A SEPARATE SESSION THAT EVENING WITH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND THE COUNCIL'S NEW GENERAL SECRETARY, LEONARD FORSSEBACK OF THE SWEDISH TCO. ACCORDING TO STERNER, ETUC OFFICIALS WISH TO DISCUSS TWO ETUC PROJECTS WHICH, AT NORDIC COUNCIL INITIATIVE, THE LAST ETUC COMMITTEE (REFTEL) APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE: (A) HOLDING A EUROPEAN "DAY OF ACTION" DESIGNED TO PROD GOVERNMENTS TO DO MORE ABOUT UNEMPLOYMENT AND (B) PROMOTING A EUROPEAN "TRIPARTITE" (LABOR, MANAGEMENT, GOVERNMENTS) CONFERENCE TO DEAL WITH THE REGION'S ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. BECAUSE OF OTHER COMMITMENTS, HINTERSCHIED AND STERNER ARE NOT PLANNING TO STAY FOR THE JAN. 27 SESSIONS.

4. AN ETUC SOURCE FAMILIAR WITH THE NORDIC COUNCIL'S THINKING SAID THAT INCLUSION OF LATIN AMERICA ON THE COUNCIL'S AGENDA IS NOT DUE TO THE EXISTENCE OF ANY SPECIAL "PROBLEM," BUT TO RECOGNITION, ON BOTH THE ICFTU AND NORDIC SIDES, THAT NORDIC LABOR LEADERS COULD USE AN UPDATE ON LATIN AMERICAN LABOR DEVELOPMENTS AND ICFTU VIEWS ABOUT THEM. HINTON

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